Cratilla, gen. nov.

Frontal tubercle bifid; claws dentated before the extremity; abdomen rather slender, shorter than the wings, rather long and narrow, only one cross-nervure in the lower basal cell; no supratriangular nervures; all the triangles traversed by one nervure: fore wings with the last antenodal cross-nervure continuous; triangle rather short and broad, followed by three rows of cells, increasing; subtriangular space consisting of 3 or 4 cells: hind wings with the triangle followed by a row of 2 (or the first row of 3) cells, increasing; its base corresponding with the arculus; sectors of the triangle united at the base.

Cratilla metallica, Brauer.

Orthemis metallica, Brauer, Sitzungsb. Akad. Wien, lxvii. p. 199 (1878).
Protorthemis metallica, Kirb. Trans. Zool. Soc. Lond. xii. p. 290 (1878).

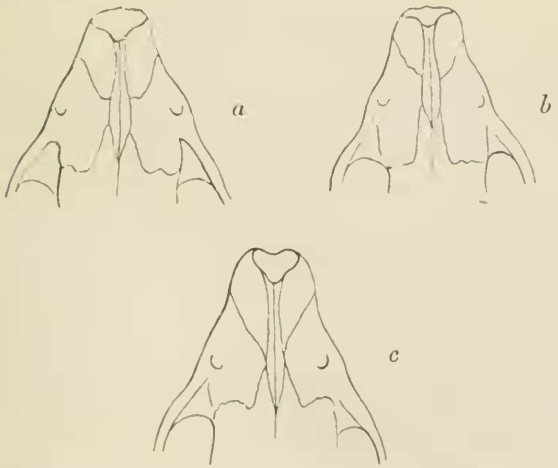
Hab. Singapore, Mount Ophir, Sarawak, Sumatra, Palawan.

Differs from *Protorthemis* by the more slender body and the want of supratriangular nervures; from *Zygonidia* by the dentated claws and the single nervure in the lower basal cell of the fore wings; and from *Nesoxenia* (to which, if I recollect rightly, some recent authors have referred it) by the traversed triangle of the hind wings, with its base corresponding to the arculus, the single nervure in the triangle of the fore wings, and the coarse reticulation, &c.

LXXII.—*Note on the Individual Variation of the Common Hedgehog* (Erinaceus europæus, *Linn.*). By Dr. Einar Lönnberg.

In the 'Annals' for April last is a paper by Mr. G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton, entitled "Note on the Common Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europæus*, Linnæus) and its Subspecies or Local Variations." The first two "subspecies" (of ten) are named "*Erinaceus europæus occidentalis*" and "*E. e. typicus*." The characteristics by which these forms are said to be distinguished from each other are, to judge from the diagnoses, rather slight. Concerning "*E. e. typicus*" Mr. Barrett-Hamilton says, under the head "distinguishing characteristics":—

"In size and colour similar to *E. e. occidentalis*, but the skull may be distinguished by the frontal processes of the premaxillæ, which, although extending backward half the length of the nasals, end in a sharply defined point." In "*E. e. occidentalis*" the same processes are stated to be provided "with a blunt or nearly square posterior termination, and seldom showing a sharply defined point or angle." The difference is consequently of little importance; but as the "type locality" of "*E. e. typicus*" is given as "Upsala, Sweden," I felt interested, and considered it the duty of an Upsala zoologist to examine the skulls of hedgehogs from the nearest vicinity of Upsala. I found then at once that the processes in question are subject to so much variation, that it is impossible to use them for the distinction of even local varieties; subspecific value cannot on any account be attributed to them. The differences are merely individual, as may be seen from the accompanying three figures. Fig. *a*,



Figures of front part of three skulls of *Erinaceus europæus*, Linn., from the vicinity of Upsala, Sweden.

drawn, as are also the others, with the help of a camera lucida, of the natural size, is taken from the skull of an animal caught in the parish just outside the town of Upsala, but should, I suppose, be regarded as belonging to the "subspecies" "*occidentalis*." Fig. *c*, from the same neighbourhood, is a "*typicus*," and fig. *b* intermediate. The series

could be made still more continuous, and there are also other skulls with these processes double-pointed, and so on, which may be mentioned as proving the variation of this bone; but I think this is enough.

I do not wish to add any disparaging remarks; but I must say that it seems really better not to burden the already copious nomenclature with new names of subspecies established on such trifling characteristics.

Upsala,
May 3, 1900.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

December 6th, 1899.—W. Whitaker, B.A., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The following communication was read:—

'On the Occurrence in British Carboniferous Rocks of the Devonian Genus *Palæoneilo*, with a Description of a New Species.' By Dr. Wheelton Hind, B.S., F.R.C.S., F.G.S.

The family Nuculidæ is represented in Carboniferous rocks by the genera *Nucula*, *Nuculana*, and *Ctenodonta*, and to these must now be added *Palæoneilo*, which the author describes from two fine specimens in the Museum of Practical Geology, from Carboniferous Shale (Yoredale Shale) south of Hammerton Hall, Slaidburn, Yorkshire. It is remarkable that a genus so well developed in Devonian times should be found at the top of the Carboniferous Limestone Series, but not in intermediate beds. Hall's diagnosis of the genus is given, with additional remarks, and a new species is described and contrasted with *Ctenodonta* (*Palæoneilo*) *lirata*, Phil., from the Devonian of Baggy.

January 24th, 1900.—W. Whitaker, B.A., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The following communications were read:—

1. 'Fossils in the University Museum, Oxford: II.—On Two New Genera and Species of Crinoidea.' By W. J. Sollas, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S., V.P.G.S., Professor of Geology in the University of Oxford.

The first genus and species are founded on two calyces in the